

# SICK PERSON

State of New Jersey EMD Guidecards Version 8/98

**K  
e  
y  
  
Q  
u  
e  
s  
t  
i  
o  
n  
s**

Is patient alert?  
Is patient breathing normally?  
Can I talk to the patient?  
**Yes:** What is the problem?  
Are you short of breath or is it hard to breath?  
Are you feeling pain anywhere? If so where?  
Do you feel light headed or dizzy?  
  
**No:** Describe what the patient is doing.  
How does the patient look?  
What is the patient complaining of?  
Does the patient respond to you and follow simple commands?  
Does the patient answer your questions?  
Is the patient acting normally for him or her?  
If not, what is different?

Is the patient complaining of pain? Where?  
How does the patient feel when he/she sits up?  
Have you checked for a medic alert tag?  
If there is an alert tag, what does it say?  
Is there insulin in the refrigerator?  
Was the onset sudden or gradual?

## SIMULTANEOUS ALS/BLS

**D  
i  
s  
p  
a  
t  
c  
h**

Unconscious/not breathing normally.  
Decreased level of consciousness.  
Multiple fainting episodes.

## BLS DISPATCH

Generalized weakness.  
Medic alert from alarm company.  
Flu symptoms.  
High blood pressure without critical symptoms.  
High temperature.  
Patient assist.  
Other.

# SICK PERSON

## Pre-Arrival Instructions

Gather patient medications, if possible.

If the patient's condition changes, call me back.

### Prompts

If unconscious, go to UNCONSCIOUS/BREATHING NORMALLY AIRWAY CONTROL

If unconscious, NOT breathing normally, go to CPR for appropriate age group.

If a specific chief complaint is identified the EMD should use the guidecard that suits the patient's chief complaint.

### Short Report

Age

Sex

Specific location

Chief complaint

Pertinent related symptoms

Medical/Surgical history, if any

Other agencies responding

Any dangers to responding units